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July 17, 2017

The Honorable John Thune
United State Senate
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Nelson
United States Senate
716 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Thune and Ranking Member Nelson,

On behalf of AASA, The School Superintendents Association, representing more than 10,000 school superintendents and system leaders across the country, I write to express our strong support for the nomination of Jessica Rosenworcel to serve on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

The work of the FCC is unique in that the connectivity demands and needs of the future are nearly impossible to predict. The FCC's track record of success depends on having commissioners with an unwavering commitment to addressing these unknown demands, including supports for communities facing geographic and/or economic obstacles.

Ms. Rosenworcel has a long history as a champion of connectivity and equity, ensuring all communities have access to the type of connectivity that is essential to opportunity and success in today's increasingly digital world. She is a disciplined and principled public servant, committed to the FCC's work to regulate interstate and international communications via radio, television, wire, satellite and cable across the nation. Specific to the schools our members run and the 50 million students they serve, Ms. Rosenworcel has supported the E-Rate program since its inception and was a driving force in the 2014 modernization that helped transform E-Rate to better support all schools and communities with access to broadband. She is able to balance the connectivity needs of the nation with policy and implementation opportunities and constraints, and to do so in a manner that brings communities together. We look forward to further opportunities to collaborate with the FCC and Ms. Rosenworcel as they work to better connect those communities that remain un(der)served.

AASA supports the nomination of Ms. Rosenworcel to the FCC and strongly urges the committee and full Senate to approve her nomination. Thank you for considering our endorsement, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions about our support for the nomination, our support for E-Rate, or a broader conversation about the importance of education technology and broadband access for today's 24-hour learners.

Sincerely,

Daniel A. Domenech
Executive Director